

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 139704
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY EA/VLC - RDROSENTHAL:JY/MFG
APPROVED BY EA - RHOLBROOKE
EA - ROAKLEY
S/S-O - MR. GOLDSMITH
GOLDSMITH

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O 161507Z JUN 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 139704

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, VN, US

SUBJECT: US-SRV NEGOTIATIONS

1. DEPT IS FORWARDING BY SEPARATE CABLE EXCERPT FROM
DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER'S JUNE 11 SPEECH AT OCCIDENTAL
COLLEGE ON US-SRV RELATIONS. EMBASSY LIAISON OFFICER
SHOULD PASS THIS ON TO SRV EMBASSY AT EARLIEST APPROPRIATE
OPPORTUNITY.

2. LIAISON OFFICER SHOULD ALSO NOTE FOLLOWING ORALLY TO
VIETNAMESE:

-- WE HAVE NOTED THE MUCH LOWER LEVEL OF OFFICIAL AND PRESS
COMMENT BY BOTH SIDES ON US-SRV NEGOTIATING POSITIONS AND
RELATIONS GENERALLY SINCE LAST ROUND OF MEETINGS. WE
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BELIEVE THIS HAS BEEN USEFUL IN MAINTAINING A MORE OBJEC-
TIVE, AND ULTIMATELY MORE HELPFUL, ATMOSPHERE FOR FUTURE
TALKS. ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE WISHES TO CONVEY TO
VICE MINISTER PHAN HIEN HIS APPRECIATION FOR EFFORTS IN
THIS REGARD AND HIS ASSURANCE THAT WE, FOR OUR PART, WILL
CONTINUE TO MAKE SIMILAR EFFORTS.

-- RE RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY, THE ADMINISTRATION IS
ACTIVELY AND OPENLY OPPOSING SEVERAL LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS
WHICH WOULD PLACE ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON SUCH MATTERS

AS MULTILATERAL AID AND TRADE WITH VIETNAM. WE WILL CONTINUE TO RESIST SUCH EFFORTS TO LIMIT FURTHER THE ADMINISTRATION'S FLEXIBILITY IN SUCH MATTERS, BUT THE AMENDMENTS--AND THE VOTES ON SEVERAL OF THEM SO FAR--DEMONSTRATE ANEW THE STRONG CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC ATTITUDES WHICH HOLBROOKE DESCRIBED IN HIS RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH PHAN HIEN.

-- SPECIFICALLY IN REGARD TO ABOVE, IN RESPONSE TO PRESS QUERY ON SENATOR DOLE'S AMENDMENT PASSED (BY VOTE OF 56-32) JUNE 14 WHICH WOULD REQUIRE U.S. TO VOTE AGAINST LOANS TO AND PROJECTS IN VIETNAM BY INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND WOULD RESTRICT USE OF U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS FOR SUCH LOANS OR PROJECTS, DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID "WE ARE OPPOSED TO THIS AMENDMENT. WITH RESPECT TO VIETNAM, WE ARE ENCOURAGED THAT THERE HAS BEEN MORE PROGRESS ON THE MISSING IN ACTION ISSUE IN THE PAST FOUR MONTHS THAN IN THE PREVIOUS SEVERAL YEARS. WE DON'T THINK STEPS SUCH AS THE DOLE AMENDMENT ARE LIKELY TO BE HELPFUL IN SEEKING FURTHER PROGRESS ON THAT ISSUE OR TO OUR OBJECTIVE OF SEEKING NORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. IT IS ALSO INCONSISTENT WITH OUR BROADER EFFORTS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS." CHRISTOPHER

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